

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 AGR-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 SWF-02 FRB-03

DRC-01 TAR-02 /142 W

----- 024262

R 091830Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4815

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAGUA 3117

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, NU

SUBJECT: INVENTORY OF NICARAGUA TRADE PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 167782

1. EMBASSY COMMENTS ON SUBJECT FOLLOW:

2. NICARAGUAN TRADE PROBLEMS WITH U.S.

A. TOBACCO: NICARAGUA IN AIDE-MEMOIRE GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR EBERLE MAY 1, 1974, REQUESTED SPECITL PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR TOBACCO IMPORTS EQUAL TO THAT GIVEN TO THE PHILIPPINES. USG IN AIDE-MEMOIRE DATED JULY 22, 1974, RESPONDED THAT PHILIPPINE PREFERENCES EXPIRED JULY 4, 1974. MINECON OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT U.S. RESPONSE SATISFACTORY AND GON CONSIDERS MATTER CLOSED, I.E. GON WILL NOT PURSUE REQUEST FOR SPECIAL PREFERENCE.

B. TEXTILES: QUESTION OF WHAT ACTION TO TAKE TO BRING BILATERAL COTTON TEXTILE AGREEMENT INTO CONFORMITY WITH MFA REMAINS OPEN. GON EXPECTS INDICATION OF USG INTENTIONS IN FALL.

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C. FRUIT EXPORTS: GON HAS ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN CONTROLLING MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. QUARANTINE STATION SO THAT NICARAGUA WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPORT FRESH FRUIT TO THE U.S.

3. U.S. TRADE PROBLEMS WITH NICARAGUA.

A. AUTOMOBILE TARIFFS: ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT OF AUTOMOBILE DISTRIBUTORS ASSOCIATION (ANDIVA), FEDERICO LANG, GENERAL SOMOZA TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS READY TO MOVE AHEAD WITH REQUEST TO REVISE TARIFF. (DEALERS HAD MADE REQUEST TO GON SEPARATE BUT SIMILAR TO OURS.) SOMOZA REPORTEDLY TOLD LANG TO MEET WITH EMBASSY TO COORDINATE A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL. EMBOFF MET WITH DIRECTORS OF ANDIVA AND AGREED UPON FOLLOWING REVISION IN TARIFFS.

OLD CIF VALUE IN U.S. DOLLARS	NEW CIF VALUE PERCENT	TARIFF
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LESS THAN 2,000	LESS THAN 4,000	40
2,000-2,500	4,000-5,000	50
2,500-3,000	5,000-6,000	60
3,000-3,500	& 6,000-7,000	70
OVER 3,500	OVER 7,000	75

LANG PRESENTED THE PROPOSAL TO SOMOZA ON AUGUST 8. WE ANTICIPATE THAT IT WILL BE PUT INTO EFFECT RATHER QUICKLY.

ESTIMATE THAT THE CIF VALUE OF THE LEAST EXPENSIVE 1975 MODEL OF U.S. CARS (HORNET, VEGA, PINTO) WILL BE BETWEEN \$3,000 AND \$3,300, THEREFORE ALLOWING THEM TO ENTER AT THE LOWEST RATE OF DUTY.

SHELTON

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